whom the Government has a claim for \$16,000 on account of undervaluation of importations. Some time ago the firm offered \$2,400 in compromise of the claim, but the offer was rejected. The offer was subsequently in-creased to \$8,000 and is now under consideration by the Bolietter, who says he is inclined to reject it also as insuf-

CHANGE IN POSTAL RATES.

Washington, Jan, 2.—The Postmaster-General to-day issued an order changing the rate of postage on a number of articles that have heretofore been rated as third-class or printed matter, paying postage at the rate of one cent for every two ounces. Under this order these articles will be cafter be classified as merchandise or fourth-class matter, upon which the postage is one cent

The following is the text of the order: The character of paper as an article of merchandise within the meaning of the postal laws is not necessarily changed by the printof the postal laws is not necessarily changed by the printing or stamping thereon of words, letters, characters, figures, images, or of any combination thereof. Labels patterns, photographs, plaving cards, visiting cards, address tags, paper sacks, wrapping paper with advertisements printed thereon, bill heads, letter heads, envelopes and other matter of the same general character, the printing upon which is not designed to instruct, amuse, cultivate the mind or taste, or impart general information, are mere articles of merchandise and should be rated as fourth-class matter.

WASHINGTON NOTES.

Washington, Wednesday, Jan. 2, 1884. ORDERS TO NAVAL OFFICERS,-Lieutenant William J. Moore has been detached from the Washington Navy Yard and ordered to the Ossipee; Liertenant Charles M. McCartney from the Wyandotte and ordered to the Spendwell

A RESIGNATION ACCEPTED.-Lleutenant J. W. Walker has tendered his resignation and it was accepted by the Secretary of the Navy to-day, to take effect at

| Bodies of De Long and Men.-Sheretary Chandler has received the following cable message from Minister Hunt at St. Petersburg, dated yesterday: "Harber telegraphs from Sonsk his arrival there yesterday, and expects to reach Orenburg by the 15th histant." Lietenant Harber has charge of the bodies of De Long and com-

HURT BY THE FALL OF AN ELEVATOR.

NARROW ESCAPE OF SIX MEN-THE ACCIDENT SAID TO BE UNAVOIDABLE,

TO BE UNAVOIDABLE.

A freight elevator in Smith's Brewery, at No 240
West Eighteenth-st., fell three stories at 12:30 p. m.
yesterday. There were six men in the elevator at the
time, and only one escaped injury. The accident
was caused by the breaking of the iron beam
which supported the screw on which the cogwheel, or gearing, which rms the cable drum restel.
This caused the screw to drop down and liberate
the drum; then the weight of the car caused it to
run rapidly down to the bottom of the shaft.
The men injured were: The men injured were:

The men injured were:

Cole, Ottis, age forty nine, who lives at No. 246 Eighthave. He had his left leg fractaired, and was attended by Ambulance Surgeon Stevens, who took him to the New-York Hospital.

BAUR, Charles, age forty-two, foreman of the brewery, who lives at No. 232 West Eighteenth-st. He had his right leg and left ankie broken, and was taken to the New-York Hospital.

SMITH, DONALD, age fifty-five, one of the proprietors of the brewery, who lives at No. 240 West Eighteenth-st. He had his left leg broken, and was taken to the New-York Hospital.

SMITH, DONALD, age fifty-five, one of the proprietors of the brewery, who lives at No. 240 West Eighteenth-st. He had his left leg broken, and was attended by the ambulance surgeon and was taken home.

SMITH, McPherarson, age forty-five, a proprietor of the brewery, who lives at No. 240 West Eighteenth-st., had his left ankie sprained.

WEIDPMEYER, GEORGE W., age thirty-nime, who lives at No. 588 Market-st., Newark, N. J. He had his back injured and was taken home in a carriage.

Joseph Camier, who was running the elevator at the time, was the only one who escaped injury.

The engineer said to a Tribune reporter: "The accident could not have been foreseen or avoided. This elevator has been running six years and has not been out of order or needed repairing in all that time. The elevator car is not injured, and nothing besides he broken beam, which caused the trouble, would have been damaged but for the cable on the drum being reversed, after the car had reached the bottom. The whole machinery was out of the control of the engine, and the wonder is that so little damage was done. The fall was thirty-two feet. There are patent brakes on the elevator, but they were useless in this case, for the cables did not part: and the brakes are not intended to operate except when the cables do part."

AWAKING TO FIND HIMSELF SHOT.

Dr. Louis Schultze, of No. 102 East Thirty-fifthst., sent a card to the Fifty-first-st. police station at 10:30 a.m., yesterday, making the following request: "Please send for an ambulance from Bellevue Hospital for Thomas McMahon at No. 207 East Forty-third-st. He is shot in the head." Captain Mount thought the case suspicious because it had not been reported by a patroluan, and he sent Detective Shelly to the tenement house in Forty-third-st, to make an investigation. On the second floor of the house the detective found Thomas McMahon, a bricklayer, tying in bed with a shot wound behind the right ear. Dr. Schultze, who had been summoned half an hour before, said that a pistel bullet had entered the cavity of the skull and he did not wish to take the responsibility of probing for it. McMahon, who said that he was tifty years old, but who looked much younger, was unwilling at first to give any information about the shooting. at first to give any information about the shooting. His wife was in the room and her attentions appeared to make him uncomfortable. At length Me-Mahon said: "Georges A. Belieau shot me in her room at No. 148 East Forty-second-st, about six All this is in a tone very unlike what Mr. Paraell Labella and the second st. All this is in the babit of using. The scandalous importance of the man who exaggerates for his own purposes the damer likely to arise from the action of a few wretched Orangemen.

All this is in a tone very unlike what Mr. Paraell has been in the babit of using. The scandalous im-

ROBBED BY HIGHWAYMEN.

J. L. Byrnes, of No. 141 Washington-st., was attacked and badly beaten on New Year's night in Avenue-A, near Twentieth-st., by three highwaymen, who robbed him of \$92 and a watch. They were pursued by Officer Lacy of the Eighteenth Precinct, who captured one of the thieves. He said that he was John Dugan, of No. 355 First-ave., and he was held in \$5,000 bail by Justice Murray in the Yorkville Police Court yesterday. In passing through Ridge-st., between Rivington and Stanton sts., at midnight of New Year's day, Franz Freidel, of No. 126 Essex-st., was assaulted and robbed by two men. Officer Cook, of the Tonth Precinct, arres ed Charles Diessler, of No. 220 Seventh-st., who was held for trial in General Sessions by Justice Gorman at the Essex Market Court yesterday. Court yesterday.

DYING FROM BEING RUN OVER,

Michael Gruenwald, of No. 262 Stanton-st., who was found lying with crushed legs on the railroad track in Twelfth-st. near Avenue D, on Tuesday night, and was carried to Believue Hospital, died yesterday from the effect of his injuries. Dr. Morris, the physician who attended him said that the man's legs were crushed in a horrible manner. Just before dying Gruenwald told Dr. Morris that he was walking across the street when he was knocked down by the horses attached to a street car. The night was so dark and misty that he did not notice the approaching car in time to escape. The draver of the car was Thomas McCaffrey. He was placed under arrest.

FUNERAL OF JOHN M'CARTHY SCULLY.

The funeral of John M'Carthy Scully the Irish The funeral of John M'Carthy Scully the Irish agitator took place yesterday aftermoon. The body lay in a small room at No. 115 Broome-st., and about 200 persons came to take leave of their dead friend and countryman. Among them were J. O'Donovan Rossa, Stephen J. Meany, John Mc Grath, James P. Farrell, Commissioner Wallace of the Board of Education and Miles O'Brien. The latter placed on the coffin a floral design with the legend "For his country, his love—For his enemies, his hate." No services were held at the house. The burnal was at Holy Cross Cemetary at Flatbush, L. I.

NO COMPROMISE ON THURMAN.

State Insurance Commissioner Clarke Moore, of Obio, is at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. As a Republican observer of the Democratic contest there, he said last

evening:

"Payne will be elected Senator to a certainty,"

"What about a compromise on Thurman?"

"No compromise. The Standard Oil Company has put
too much money into the fight to allow any compromise,"

MR. ARNOLD'S LECTURE TOUR.

Matthew Afnold will deliver his lecture on whose house ne will meet several prominent gentlemen.
Δ reception was given to Mr. Arneld on Tuesday night by
fact more certain than another, it is that if we are Charles Butler, at his home in Park-ave. Last night he lecture course Mr. Arnold will go to the western part of this state next week, and thence to Chicago, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Cincinnati, Columbus and other Western gitles. He will return to this city next month, sailing for bome on February 27.

Last nice certain than another, it is that if we are to be exerced again, if the present Coercion Act or any part of it is to be renewed, these things shall be dealers in general merchandise at Miles City, Montana, have made an assignment. Their assetts are estimated at \$00.000, with habilities stated at about the same of increased taxes and foreign wars penalties in as

MR. PARNELL.

HIS DUBLIN SPEECH, ITS VIOLENCE. ITS THREATS, AND THE ENGLISH ANSWER.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] LONDON, December 14.

Mr. Parnell's speech on receiving his money tribate at the Dublin banquet of Wednesday is an interesting one, and ought to do a great deal of good. The danger in Anglo-Irish politics has all long been that the Liberals of England might be cajoled into a coalition with the men whom Mr. Bright truly described as Irish rebels. After the Kilmainham Compact the danger became immment, but was averted by Mr. Forster, who denounced and exposed on the floor of the House of Commons Mr. Parnell's complicity in, and responsibility for, the organized ontrages of the Land League. There have been signs lately that Mr. Chamberlain and his followers were meditating a renewal of the attempt as an alliance with Mr. Parnell. But the service which Mr. Forster did last February, Mr. Parnell himself has now done. His speech of Wednesday night must be pretty well forgotten before even Mr. Chamberlain will venture to propose to the Liberals of England any further political confederacy with its author. Or, if it be not safe to set limits to Mr. Chamberlain's courage in such matters, I will say that the Liberals will decline to follow Mr. Chamberlain should be now propose to lead them in

that direction. The speech of the Land League chief has two leading characteristics. The first, and less important, is extreme violence of language. Heretofore, Anglo-Irish Radicals, when reproached with holding or seeking a connection with the Irish party in Parliament, have been able to say: "Yes, it is true we cannot defend the language which Messrs. Healy and Biggar and those like them employ, but Mr Parnell, at least, talks like a gentleman." Mr. Parnell has cut the ground from under the feet of such asulsts as these. It may be doubted whether ither Mr. Healy or Mr. Biggar has ever gone berond the vulgar vituperation of this Rotunda harangue. If Mr. Parnell's langague is less coarseit is not less abusive in effect. For the mere brutality of Mr. Biggar Mr. Parnell commonly substitutes namendo. The ferocity of phrase which is Mr. Healy's specialty Mr. Parnell replaces by ferocity of thought. At times he combines the styles of all these, as when he speaks of the "late lamented Buckshot Forster," whom elsewhere he calls "our poor friend Mr. Forster," He refers to the Lord sentenant and Chief Secretary of Ireland as "those | they will find that they have something else to deal individuals," Lord Spencer and Mr. Trevelyan. The present Irish Executive, in Mr. Parnell's opinion, is characterized by greater meanness and by greater incapacity than any other (sie) of its predecessors."

As for Lord Spencer, he is only "a sort of inferior bottle-holder to Mr. Forster." Then Mr. Parnell proceeds:

It is therefore to be expected that Lord Spencer would distinguish himself by the administration of the new Coercion Act, by his refusal to spare that pillar of English rule in Ireland—Mr. Marwood—any of the duties of his office, by his imprisonments and his tortures, by his fines, and his police quartered upon an unoffending and guiltless people. We are not surprised, I say, that Lord Spencer should do his little best to imitate the biggest of the big coercionists who ever came to Ireland, and that he should desire to give full play to the unbridled insolence and passion of the foreign garrison of Ireland." It is therefore to be expected that Lord Spencer could distinguish himself by the administration

Then comes Mr. Trevelyan's turn-" a disinguished Radical, the good nephew of his great grand-uncle." After an inaccurate account of the Harrington cases Mr. Parnell says:

Harrington cases Mr. Parnell says:

I think no greater example in a small way could be given of the utter unscrupaiousness of our rulers, and their want of common honesty, than the fact that Mr. Harrington is still retained as a common felon, wearing prison clothes, lying on a prison bed and eating puson fare, for an offence of which it must be perfectly well known to those men in Dublin Castle he is as absolutely innocent as I am.

Of Mr. Trevelyan's recent speech in Scotland Mr. Parnell says:

Neither Irish Orangemen nor Irish Nationalists will believe that Mr. Trevelyan does himself the honor of believing what he Lastold the people of

Mr. Biggar would have said in more direct phrase that Mr. Trevelyan lied. Mr. Parnell's periphrases means exactly the same thing, and he adds:

All through his speech it is easy to detect the self-satisfied chuckle of the man who exaggerates for his own purposes the danger likely to arise from the action of a few wretched Orangemen.

room at No. 148 East Porty-second'st, about six o'cleck this morning."

The detective, after summoning an ambulance to take McMahon to the hospital, went to the three-story dwelling house, No. 148 East Forty-second-st, and on the second floor found Mrs. Georges A. Belleau, a widow, whose husband died about five months ago. Soon after his death Mrs. Belleau was arrested for attempting to poison herself, but was discharged. Then her rooms in East Thirty-hinthst, canapht fire, and she was arrested on a charge of attempted arson, but Justice Murray set her at liberty again. She said that McMahon had been in her room all night, and had drunk the better part of a quart bottle of whiskey which she had paid for, the also loaded a pistol, which her husband had owned, and placed it between the pillows in the bed. Early in the morning he awoke her and accused her of shooting him, but she did not believe that he had been shot. After dressing himself he borrowed fifty cents, saying that he would go and get shaved. He went out, but did not re urn as he had promised. If McMahon was shot, she said, he must have shot himself. She was arrested and locked up to await the result of McMahon's injuries.

All this is in a tone very unine what Mr. Texnel has been in the habit of using. The scandaloas imputations upon Lord Spencer and Mr. Trevelyan, of dishonesty and wilful falsehood, were, no doubt, to the taste of his audience, but they are not what Englishmen are accustomed to in English public life. The occasion was perhaps one where Mr. Parnell was bound to consider his Irish audience, but they are not what Englishmen are accustomed to in English public life. The occasion was perhaps one where Mr. Parnell we be did not get the consider his rish audience, but they are not what Englishmen are accustomed to in English public life. The occasion was perhaps one where Mr. Parnell we held the taste of his audience, but they are not what Englishmen are accustomed to in English public life. The occasion was perhaps one where Mr. Parnell we his ample resources.

Parnell has now definitely abandoned his position as a mere grievance-monger. It is three years or more since he took off his coat to work for the tenant farmer and against the landlord. He has now taken off his mask. Agrarian agitation has served its purpose. He is to be regarded henceforth as the partisan of Home Rule pure and simple. Everything he has done hitherto has led up to that, and everything he may in future do for any other object will be merely incidental to that. He describes Ireland as a nation striving for nationhood under a burden of difficulties (including landlords, and the laws which protected landlords' property) great enough to make success impossible till they were got rid of. He sits down to a banquet carefully ordered to exclude every hint of obedience or loyalty to English rule. The Queen is not mentioned. The English flag is not to be seen, The orators of the evening vie with each other in passionate protestation of their undying hate to England and their purpose to make Ireland independent. The majority of Irishmen, they declare, are for separation. And Mr. Parnell warns English statesmen, English Liberals, and even his friends the Euglish Radicals, that they have got to learn the first lesson of their political creed, which is that every nation, very country, has a right to be gov-erned according to the law of the majority of that country. So said Mr. Jefferson Davis two-andtwenty years ago, but the twenty millions of the North denied to the twelve millions of the South the right to be governed according to the wish of the majority of that country. We Americans have therefore, according to Mr. Parnell, the first lesson of our political ereed yet to learn. If we are not ready to accept Mr. Parnell as a teacher, can we wonder that Englishmen are not ready either?

Mr. Parnell has probably made a mistake in putting his ultimate purpose too clearly and too early before the people with whom it rests to grant or deny the Irish desire for secession. His present language is, to be sure, only an amplification of equally explicit, even more explicit, declarations made by him in America, where he proclaimed he would never rest till the last link which bound Ireland to England should have been broken. But there is a difference in time and place which is material. There is this other difference, and further mistake of judgment: He accompanies his aunonneement with a threat. "If," says Mr. Parnell, we cannot rule ourselves, we can at least cause the English to be ruled as we choose." He has a win-"Emerson" in Association Hall to-morrow night. He belivers it in Brooklyn to-night, and previous to the tween seventy and eighty Parnellites in the next lecture he will be entertained by Samuel McLean, at House of Commons, and they will hold the balance

cess of those indicted upon us." He is sure of it Beyond a shadow of doubt it will be for the Irish population in England-separated and isolated as they are-and for your independent Irish members,

to determine at the next general election whether a Tory or a Liberal Ministry shall rule England." Well, it begins to be clear that, however intimately Mr. Parnell knows the Irish, he does not know the English. He forgets that they are perhaps the worst people in the world to bully. I don't even except ourselves in America, because, after all, qualities and traits of race and blood are comuon to Americans and English alike. If it was true before Mr. Parnell spoke that he held in the hollow of his hand the political destinies of this Kingdom of Great Britain, it is less true since he spoke. The cynical insolence of such a boast does much to defeat it. Answers pour in upon him from every quarter and from journals and statesmen of every party and of no party. "Supposing." says the Conservative organ, "that Mr. Parnell's predictions are fulfilled, and he finds himself master of eighty votes in a House of Commons more evenly divided than at present, is he quite sure that the leaders on both sides have not virtue enough, and sense enough, to agree to strike these eighty votes out of the account on any question of Confidence?" Mr. Parnell has shocked even The Daily News, and though that journal is so far haunted by the spectre of Kilmainham as to hesitate about resenting his dictation, it hints plainly enough that there are means of ending the threatened control. "He has, indeed, effectually if not permanently alienated the sympathics of Englishmen. . . . He has never yet shown that there is any principle which he would not, on an emergency, sacrifice to the political needs of the moment. He has always acted like a man who would do anything to win." The Times meets the challenge with the utmost directness of speech: "Let Mr. Parnell prove, if he can, that he is able to shatter existing parties. It is better to know the worst than to live under the continual threat of an explosion of dynamite." And the same journal sensibly observes that the very magnitude of the peril would work a remedy. The constituencies might be trusted to give to some English party a majority against which even the eighty Parnellite votes would not suffice to turn the scale. Let any Government dissolve on such an issue as Mr. Parnell offers,-an issue putting in question the independence of Parliament and the integrity of the Kingdom,-what better cry could there be to go to the country with † Said Mr. Forster yesterday at Bradford: "If there is an attempt by the Parnellites to govern the United Kingdom, and to decree which party shall govern it, and to make their bargain,

with than two parties. They will have the people of England and Scotland to deal with." It would be easy to accumulate testimonies of that kind, as it would be easy to multiply quotations of base and shocking sentiments from Mr. Parnell's speech. But the case, I apprehend, is clear enough as it stands. Mr. Parnell inveighs with his usual vehemence against the Crimes Act. Does it ever occur to his admirers, if such he has, among Americans (I do not mean Irish-Americans) what the Crimes Act is? It is an act against crimes, an act for the prevention of outrage, the protection of the innocent and the punishment of the guilty. Why does I'r, Parnell complain of it ? Because his power rests on the perpetuation of crime. This, too his speech of Wednesday brought out freshly and forcibly. Does he suppose the English people are going to submit to a political tyranny of which erime is the foundation? Yet, if the menace he addressed to England has any serious meaning, it means exactly that; and that may serve as a measure of the chances of its fulfilment.

THE DRY GOODS DISTRICT.

MR. PURROY'S PLAN TO PUT OUT FIRES. PROPOSING TO PUMP WATER FROM THE NORTH

RIVER INTO MOVABLE TANKS. The Fire Commissioners yesterday adopted

he following report, which was submitted by Commis-

All this is in a tone very unlike what Mr. Parnell
has been in the habit of using. The scandalous importance of the control of

riankless, such as Engine Company No. 30, at No. 253
Franklinest, Engine Company No. 30, at No. 253
Franklinest, and Hook and Ladder Company No. 8, at No.
North Moore-st, (er such other companies as may be selected by the Chief of Department), to be used by these companies in "stretching in "a continuous line of hose in co-operation with the men upon the fire boat, and thus connecting the boat with the tank. The water should then be forced out of the river and into the tank by the pumps on board of the fire-boat, and then be taken from the tank by the land engines, and thrown through their hose upon the fire. A tank of the dimensions above described will hold more than 1,000 gallons of water, and if it be kept supplied from the river would, I believe, furnish sufficient water to enable the continuous working of at least three steam fire eaglies.

In submitting this plan, it is offered only as a possible means of safety to our city should an emergency arise in which the Croton water hydrants full to reasond to their ordinary requirements. It is not intended in any manner as an argument in favor of the use of sail water instead of fresh for the extinguishing of fires. My highest expectations will have been fully met should it prove, in any degree, a temporary safeguard-during such period as may be required for the introduction and perfecting of a complete and thorough system of water distribution throughout the city.

There are now in service and available for the purpose of the proposed test, nearly 4,000 feet of three and one-quarter inch hose, and an additional supply of 1,300 feet is now contracted for; and in order that the capacity of the boats to force water in the manner and to the distance herein proposed may be fully tested, I recommend that the fire-boat Zophar Mills be ordered to proceed to Port Morris at an early day; that a line of three and one-quarter inch hose is extretched from the boat along the southern Boulevard a distance of at least 4,000 feet, and that a feet be there made as to whether wa reed that distance through a line of nose into a ad d as to the number of emeines that such tank can t made to supply. I also recommend that, for the p se of making the test, a suitable lank with proper is d outlets attached to it be at once secured, and the properly equipped line currines and benders as a common of the Chief of Department, can be be ared temperarily, be ordered to report at the passenated.

designated.

THE STATE LEGISLATURE.

A BRIEF SESSION OF BOTH HOUSES. AMOS J. CUMMINGS URGED FOR AQUEDUCT COM-MISSIONER.

[FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.] ALBANY, Jan. 2 .- A few moments before the Legislature met this morning there was a singular scene to be witnessed in the Excutive Chamber. A group of New-York members surrounded the Governor's chair and were in earnest conversation with Mr. Cleveland in relation to the appointment of a successor to the late George W. Lane as Aqueduct Commissioner. The members of the group, Senators Murphy, Cullen and Plunkitt and the group, Senators Murphy, Canen and Fabract and Assemblymen Haggerty, Roche, Clarke, Rosenthal, Oliver, Murphy, Jobes and Duffy, all Democrats, suggested to the Governor the appointment of Amos J. Cummings to fill the vacancy. Mr. Cummings was culogized as a life-long Democrat. Governor Cleveland in reply stated that he had no special choice for the position; he merely desired to satisfy the taxpayers of New-York by making an appointment agreeable to them. If Mr. Cummings was acceptable to the taxpayers his name would be put

was acceptable to the taxpayers his name would be put down for serious consideration. It will be observed that every member present was a Democrat. It was taken for granted that the Governor would appoint a Democrat as a successor to Mr. Lane.

The session of the Legislature was a brief one. Until the committees are appointed no business can be done. An adjournment was taken to Tuesday next. In the interval Senator McCarthy and Speaker Sheard will prepare the committee lists. Speaker Sheard departed for his home at Little Falls to-day, but will return the latter part of the week and begin his task. He did not make a piedge of a committee position during the canvas for Speaker, and accordingly will set to work with free hands. Most of the members of the Assembly wrote him letters to-day expressing their preferences respecting committee positions.

with free hands. Most of the members of the references respecting committee positions.

Mr. Dayton, of New-York, made an unsuccessful attempt to-day to reduce the number of the committees and to increase the membership of the more important ones. The Assembly, under the advice of Dewitt C. Littlelohn, James W. Husted and Theodore Roosevelt refused to make any change. A few important bills were introduced. Senator Daly had one to prevent the overlasue of railroad stock; Senator Murphy another to authorize the construction of a suspension bridge across the Hudson River at Storm King Mountain, Cornwall, and Senator Elisworth still another permitting corporations to offset their debts like individuals when taxed. Mr. Clarke, of New-York, introduced in the Assembly a bill extending the commission hours on the clavated railroads of New-York so as to make the commission hours from 4 to 10 a.m. and from 3 to 9 p.m. Mr. Van Allen, of New-York, introduced the Chamber of Commerce's bill lowering the pilotage fees at Sandy Hook.

MANAGEMENT OF STATE BANKS.

CONDITION OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS - METHODS OF PRIVATE BANKS.

Albany, Jan. 2.-Willis S. Paine, Superinendent of the Banking Department of the State, has submitted to the Legislature the annual report of his department. The report shows the condition of the banks and trust companies at the close of the fiscal year ending September 30, 1883, and makes various suggestions as to

September 30, 1883, and makes various suggestions as to their management.

The report states: "On October 1, 1883, elebty-four banks of discount and deposit, regularly organized under the laws of this State, were engaged in active business; nine of the number, having an aggregate capital of \$3,126,000, organized during the fiscal year. There are eight more banks in operation than at the date of the last report. During the fiscal year there has been a net increase of capital of \$2,956,000; within the same period leans and discounts have increased \$12,245,530, prodits and surplus \$1,488,716, and deposits \$31,863, 518,2933. The total increase in assets for the year was \$38,162,933. The increase in the several items of resources and liabilities during the past five years is shown by the following comparative statement, compiled from the sworn reports of the several banks:

Due deposit

Date. Capital. Due deposi-tors on de-mand. Leans and Profits and discounts. Surplus. Sept. 13, 79 s19,553,200 s52 259,580 s51,174 570 s7,230 465 Sept. 18, 79 s19,553,200 s52 259,580 s51,174 570 s7,230 465 Sept. 18, 80 18,758,200 6179,773 661,79,259 8,058,130 sept. 24, 81, 19,025,500 76,717,130 74,745,135 8,928,175 Sept. 29, 83 21,781,700 82,953,980 83,488,514 9,957,792 Sept. 29, 83 21,781,700 115,914,963 96 338,60 11,146,418

sept. 30, 32 18.80, 700 82,050,880 80,348,514 9,657,702 sept. 22, 35 21,761,709 113,914,933 96,338,661 11,146,418 50,850,850,850,755; Sept. 24, 181, \$11,46,457,2 sept. 18, 1880, \$50,850,755; Sept. 24, 181, \$11,46,457,2 sept. 20, 1882, \$122,563,460; Sept. 22, 1833, \$160,710,493.

"This is evidence of an exceedingly favorable character to our system of free banking, and shows that capitalists, by the Federal Government, are satisfied with the simplicity and efficiency of that system. The e-can be no question but that the future of the banks created in accordance with the statutes of this State is as promising as that of those organized under the National Banking Act." The document show that on October 1, 1883, there were sixteen regularly organized trust loan and mortgage companies doing business in the State, and that on July this aggregate resources amounted to \$160,137,704, and their total Babuittes \$160,293,933. The deficiency of \$156,170 ts in the assets of the Real Estate Trust Company. On the same date there were sixteen institutions for the safe keeping and goaranteeing of personal property, with an aggregate capital of \$2,886,900.

The report next deals with the bank circulation, and asys: "During the fiscal year \$217,977 of the outstanding circulating notes issued by incorporated banks, banking associations or individual bankers, the time for the

outstanding circulation resulted from the discovery in the vault of the Bank of the Manhattan Coupany of \$217,541 of its own notes which had not been presented here for caucallation, and remained a charge against the bank on the books of this Department. The notes have been de-

the books of this Department. The notes have been de-stroyed in accordance with law.

The following securities were held in trust by the Super-intendent, for banking associations, individual bankers and trust companies, on October 1:

\$1,856,777.72

a conclusion to the disparamement of our regular associations: a conclusion unjust in the extreme."

A list is given of eighty-three private banks doing business under curporate manes. The report recommends an
amendment to the laws of 1849 which made the responsibility of stockholders depend upon circulation. Says
superintendent Paine: "As nearly every State bank
issued circulating notes when this act was passed, its provisions afforded a valuable safeguard for the protection of
the creditors of State banking Institutions. But congressional legislation in the year 1868, imposing a tax of tenper centum on the circulation of State banks, has resulted
in driving such circulation out of existence. Hence, the
provisions of the act of 1849, the language of which made
the responsibility of stockholders depend upon circulation, no longer affords any practical benefit to such credition. The law should be explicit that the shareholders of
every banking association shall be liable for the debts of
the bank to an amount equal to his stock at the par value
thereof and in addition to it. Such an amendment, while
it would, perhaps be of no avail to deter officers from
wrong-doing, is but fair, to the end that depositors and
other creditiors may be protected to the extent indicated."

He also recommends that the laws should be so

wrong-doing, is but has, occasion to the extent indicated."

He also recommends that the laws should be so amended as to empower the Superintendent to make an examination of the banks, banking associations, individual bankers and trust companies, personally or by a competent person to be designated by him, whenever he may deem it proper. He advocates also an additional amendment prohibiting the appointment of any person as receiver of a bank, banking association, individual banker or trust company, who has acted as an examiner thereof. The report concludes with the following regulations concerning State deposits: "I think it my duity to had that I know of no reason why moneys of the State should not be deposited in State institutions. I submit that the course that has obtained of keeping moneys of the State in National banks, when our State banks are quite as strong, is not paying the latter the compliment to which they are reasonably entitled."

THE CANALS IN BAD CONDITION. MR, SEYMOUR SAYS THEY HAVE OUTLIVED THEIR

USEFULNESS-ADIRONDACK FORESTS. Albany, Jan. 2.-Silas Seymour, State engineer and surveyor, in his report gives the total length of the main and branch canals in the State as 644 miles, navigable; and 83 unnavigable. Referring to their condition,

level between Rochester and Lockport, as well as on the shorter levels east of Rochester, has become ac contracted, both in width and depth, by reason of large silty deposits, caused by side drainage and discharges at the numerous villages along the line of the canal which discharge their sewage into it, that it is not only a serious impediment to navigation, but a formidable obstruction to the flow of the water required for the full supply of the canal, as originally intended and provided for.

Referring to the Adirondack region, he says that by the construction of dams at a very moderate cost the lakes and ponds in that region may all be utilized as receiving and storage reservoirs, from which water may be drawn at pleasure. He dwells at considerable length upon the question of the preservation of the Adirondack forests, and has serious doubts as to the propriety of entering upon a policy which would involve the expenditure of an immense amount for the purchase of them. He contends that it is difficult to see any present necessity, or even justification, for resort to extraordinary measures for the purchase of private lands in the Adirondack region. He estimates that the sum of \$50,000,000 would be required for that purpose. Mr. Seymour again refers to the canals and compares them with the railroads, and reaches the conclusion that "the canals, as a successful and necessary means of transport, have outlived their usefulness, and also that as between railroads and canals, when considered with reference to their relative merits as affording a means for rapid and economical transport, it must be regarded as a foregone inevitable cenclusion that the canals must go."

LA THE COURTS.

GROSS FRAUD IN A DIVORCE.

JUSTICE LAWRENCE ORDERS A DEFAULT OPENED. Justice Lawrence, in the Supreme Court, Chambers, yesterday, opened the default in the suit for absolute divorce of Scheye E. Blyden against his wife, folda Blyden. Mrs. Blyden in her petition states that she vas married in Russia in 1869 and has three children. Her husband in 1874 studied medicine at Berlin, receiving aid from her. He subsequently came to this country and she followed him, arriving here on July 17, last. Her husband, his sister and two strange men met her at Castle Garden, and subsequently, on July 21, the two strangers left a paper with her at her home. They told her that her husband would give her \$275 and \$25 a month besides if she would return to Russia for a year and wait there until he could support her here. Mrs. Blyden went back to Russia. As she did not receive the money promised she returned to this city in September and found that her husband had, on July 27, obtained a decree of absolute divorce from her and had been married again. Blyden in his proceedings against his charged that she had been guilty of adultery with a man named Rosenberg. William Sinclair was appointed referee by Justice Donohue; his report was sent back by the Justice for further testimony to prove the identity of Mrs. Blyden as the guisty person, and the divorce was subsequently ordered. Mrs. Blyden denies the charge against her.

diently ordered. Airs, hyden dedices the charge against her.

Justice Lawrence says in his decision that Mrs. Blyden has been the subject of gross fraud, and he therefore directs that the default be opened and a referee appointed, if the counsel consent. Blyden's lawyer, in stating his case, alleged that Mrs. Blyden said when she arrived here in July that she came for the purpose of securing a Jewish divorce, which she could not get in Russia, in order that she might return and marry again, and that Blyden promised her the \$275 as a dower, which was essential for the second marriage. Mrs. Blyden denies this denies this.

SEEKING TO REMOVE AN ASSIGNEE. Argument was made yesterday before Justice Lawrence in the Supreme Court, Chambers, for the re-moval of Abram E. Wolf as assignee of Donald Gordon, a dry-goods merchant of Rochester, who falled on Deember 21, and the appointment of a receiver instead. Incompetency and violation of the assignment act are charged against the assignee. A. J. Vanderpoel and S. F. Kneeland appeared in behalf of H. B. Claffin & Co. and other creditors of Mr. Gordon, and Blumeustiel & Hirsch presented the case. It is alleged that Mr. Gordon's debts amounted to \$500,000; that since the assignment sales have been made in Mr. Gordon's name, and that the assignee's bond, \$100,000, is not large enough to secure the signee's bond, \$100,000, is not large enough to secure the creditors. A petition from creditors representing \$300,000 against Mr. Gordon was presented, asking for Mr. Wolf's removal. William H. Cogswell, of Rochester, in behalf of Mr. Wolf, read the deposition of the assignee, who swears that he took possession of the property at once and locked up the stores. Clerks were also sent to take charse of branch stores in Oswego and Mexico. A number of the creditors asked that the stores be kept open during the holidays. Mr. Wolf declares his willingness to give any desired bond. Mr. Cogswell asserted that the suit was in the interest of H. B. Chalim & Co., who desired the appointment of a receiver friendly to them. Justice Lawrence reserved his decision.

CIVIL NOTES.

A writ of prohibition restraining the Court of Special Sessions from trying Henry Bathaner, a liquor of Special Sessions from trying from the property of Special Sessions from trying from the special seller of No. S1 First-ave., for keeping his place open after the proper hour, was denied by Justice Lawrence, yesterday, in the Supreme Court, Chambers. The Justice holds that Bathaner, if unjustly convicted, has his remedy in an appeal.

James D. Fish, as receiver of the Teutonia Bank, filed his report yesterday. He gives the amount received by him as \$1,050,322 81, and he has paid out \$1,046,616 47, leaving a balance of \$3,706 34. There are still 106 honds in lituration among the assets. Justice Donobue, in the Supreme Court, discharged Mr. Fish from the receivership and appointed Herman E. Street to wind up the bank's adairs.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES. Washington, Jan. 2.—The proceedings of the United States Supreme Court to-day were as follows: No. 15...Original, ex parts. In the matter of Joseph Var-barons humborists, petitioners. Leave granted to the petition for with of habeas corpus and certificant. Dixon, Neb , plaintiff in error, agt.

ners. Submitted.

1001-The District of Columbia, plaintiff in error, agt.

-Augustus D. Juilliard, plaintiff in error, agt. Thos. enman. Submitted. 87—Alfred Slidell and others, appellants, agt. Jas. G. ison, Register, etc. 6. Alfred Sidell and others, appellants, agt. Thos. J. So. 310. Substant of theirs.

No. 317. Atfred Sildell and others, plaintiffs in error, agt. Chas. Tschirm. Argument begun.

l a m. SUPERIOR COURT-SPECIAL TERM-Refere Trusk, J-No

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S MEETING.

The annual meeting of the New-York Historcal Society took place last night in the hall of the society at Second-ave. and Eleventh-st. Augustus Scholl presided, and with him on the platform were Benjamin H. that the amount received by the society from annual dues was \$4,860 and from life memberships \$1,300. The librarian reported that within the year 1,378 bound volumes, 1,238 pamphlets, 12 volumes of bound volumes, 1,23s pamphlets, 12 volumes of manuscript, 131 volumes of newspapers and 28 engravings had been added to the library The Executive Committee reported that thirty-four new members had been admitted into the society in the year, and the whole membership was 1,988. The receipts of the society from all sources for its general purposes were \$12,526.41, and the expenditures \$8,936.07, leaving a balance on hand of \$3,599.34. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Augustus Schell, president; Hauditon Fish and Beajamin H. Field, vice-presidents; William M. Evarts, Edward F. De Lancey, Andrew Warner, secretaries; Benjamin B. Sherman, treasurer, treas drew Warner, John A. Weeks, Dar Cephas G. Thompson,

SINGULAR DISCOVERY OF A PLAY.

ARTHUR WALLACK'S "FIND "-A NEW PLAY BY AN UNKNOWN AUTHOR.

"It's an odd affair," said Theodore Moss at Wallack's Theatre yesterday-" a very odd affair. Taking it all in all, it's about the oddest thing I ever knew." "What is it that's so old I" was asked.

"Why, the history of the new play that we are going to put on after 'Old Heads and Young Hearts.' Arthur wallack reads all the plays that come here—and plenty of them there are—and then reports upon them to the governor. Well, some time ago he took home a bundle of MSS, from the office and began to look them over. Among them was a dusty packet that seemed to have slipped into some corner and been forgotten. He began to read it, became interested, read it through, and came to the con-Mr. Seymour says:

The condition of the canals, instead of improving since the last report, has deteriorated. This is due to the fact that the Legislature, instead of appropriated about the same sum that has heretofore been annually expended, an amount not contemplated to check their dismtegration, and barely sufficient to place them in thorough repair, appropriated about the same sum that has heretofore been annually expended, an amount not contemplated to check their dismtegration, and barely sufficient to patch up their worst features and his present efficient Superintendent of Public Works and his realous subordinates, that navigation has been as across as two whether we had a legal right to play it under the circumstances the cost of placing the canals in thorough repair at \$3,502,433. He recommends the construction of a dam and reservoir at the head of Forestport pond on the Black River. The estimated cost of this improvement is \$40,000. He says the western portion of the Eric Canal, extending from the lower and of Montexama or Sensea River level, is supplied mainly from Lake Eric; flow water, or lockage discharges, all being castward, flow water, or lockage discharges, all being castward, flow water, or lockage discharges, all being castward, flow water, or lockage discharges, all being castward. clusion that it was one of the best things he had ever read.

HOMICIDES OF THE YEAR.

LIST OF DEATHS BY VIOLENCE IN 1883. FORTY-FIVE CASES IN NEW-YORK-ACTION OF COURTS AND CORONERS IN EACH INSTANCE.

The records at Police Headquarters and at the Coron rs' office show that forty-five persons were murferedi n this city in the last year. Probably more than that number of persons in the city were murdered, be. cause some of the many men, women and children whose bodies were recovered from the rivers may have been drowned by enemies or thieves. Other persons, whose deata in buildings or in the streets has been attributed to accident or suicide, may have been the victims of poison or violence administered by unknown foes. The record by months of the year is as follows: January, 2; February, 4; March, 2; April, 6; May, 3; June, 3; July, 5; August, 6; September, 3; October, 4; November, 5; and December, 2. Twenty-six of the homicides were committed east of Broadway and Fifth-ave. Twelve were committed below Canal-st, twelve between Canal and Fourteenth sts. and twenty-one above Fourteenth-st. Six of the victims were injured in the Tenth Police Presinct, five in the Sixth, four in the Twenty, second, four in the Twenty-ninth, three in the Fourth, and three in the Fourteenth Precinct.

The first homicide of the year was committed by a po-

ceman, and so was the last one. In each case, however, the officer was acting in self-defence. Seven men in all were killed in the city by policemen. One of the police men was sent to prison for a short term and one other has been sentenced to be hanged. The latter is the only person who has been convicted of murder in the first degree. One policeman was mardered and his murderer was not convicted. Of the other persons killed, three were bar keepers, eleven were laborers, one was a broker, three were mechanics, three were thieves, seven had no occupation, and the others followed various pursuits. There were two wife-murders and one other woman was slain One weman killed a man who vexed her, and an insane mother killed her child. Two of the murderers were under twenty-one only two were over forty-five; fourteen were Irishmen, ten were Americans, seven were Germans, here were Italians, two were natives of England, and one was a Frenchman. The nationality of the others was unknown. Of the slain sixteen were born in Ireland or of Irish parentage, fourteen were natives, seven were Germans, four were Italians, two were Frenchmen, one was a Scotch woman, and one was a Swede.

In thirty cases the murderers were intoxicated or were engaged in a fight with persons who were drunk. Of that number of hemicides ten were declared to have been committed in self-defence. Four murders were com-nitted by persons who were insane. Five others resulted from senseless quarrels. The cause of six murders was not ascertained. Twenty-three of the murdered persons died from shot-wounds, a pistol being used in each case. The knife caused the death of eight others. Five men were killed by being knocked down with the naked fist Two were killed with clubs. The other weapons used were a stool, a bale-stick, a pair of scissors, a bungstarter, a hand-saw and a beer-faucet. One man was killed by being pushed from a scaffold.

Of the persons who were arrested for homicide sixteen have not been indicted and most of them are at liberty; eight were indicted and acquitted; five were convicted of manslaughter and sent to prison; juries failed to agree in two cases, and the prisoners have not been brought to trial again; three prisoners who were indicted have not been tried, and one was sentenced to be hanged next month. Seven murderers, four of whom are unknown to the police, escaped arrest. Two others committed suicide. One murderer at least, was killed when the burglars Irving and Walsh were shot to death. Below are concise accounts of the homicides of the year, arranged alpha

betically:

ARATA, JOHN B., a young thief, who with a confederate had knocked down and robbed an old Frenchman, Jules Barbot, in East Eleventh-et, early on the morning of August 28, was surprised by Foliceman boyle and shot dead while he was trying to escape. Doyle fired two shots, but he thought that the fatal wound was inflicted by Arata's confederate, who escaped at the time. Arata, who had served a term in prison for bursiary, lived at No. 35 Bond-st, with a woman who claimed to be his wife. The police arrested George Crane, an ex-convict, on suspicion of being Arata's confederate in the assault on Mr. Barbot, but he was not indentified. A Coroner's jury gave a verdiet which left the question as to who fired the fatal shot undecided. No complaint on account of the shooting has been made against Poinceman Doyle.

BEAMSH, JOHN W., a milkman of No. 32 Mulberty Arabet.

count of the shooting has been made against Poheeman Doyle.

BEAMISH, JOHN W., a milkman of No. 32 Mulberry-st.,
died in Bellevue Hespital on February 2, from the
effects of a shot-wound in the head. On the evening of
January 6 he jostled against Francisco sporotto, an
Italiana, of No. 115 Mulberry-st., who immediately
shot him. The wound began to heal and Beamish
waiked about the streets for three weeks. He became
worse suddenly and was sent to the hospital only a
few days before his death. Sporotto, who was arrested
on the evening of the shooting, was held for trial. He
afterward was convicted and sentenced to Sing Sing
I Json for a term of liften years.

BOHLE, HENRY, a Swele, who had been in this country
only a short time, and was employed as care-taker in
the intelligence office at No. 152 Greenwich-st., was
stabled to death in the office on the night of september
29, while a fight between some emigrants was in progress. His nurdence escaped. On October 31 the
police arrested Carl Martin, alms August Bauser, on a
charge of homicide, but witnesses of the stabling declured that the prisoner was not the man who struck
Boile. After Martin was discharged they retracted
the statement and said that Martin killed fielde. Martin was rearrested on November 8, but was acquitted
on December 14.

in was rearrested on November 8, but was acquitted on December 14.

FORTH, JOHN, a striking longshoreman, of No. 594 Water-st, on the night of August 18 threatened to assault Michael Gorden, of No. 295 Henry-st, who had been employed at Pier No. 44 East River, in his place. The men met in South-st. Bouger was drunk and made a feint to strike Gordon, who then knocked him down. By falling on the sidewalk Bouger fractured his skull and died instantly from the injury. Gordon surrendered himself and said that he acted in self-defence, but was held to await the action of the Grand Jury. He was set at liberty on October 24.

acted in self-defence, but was held to await the action of the Grand Jury. He was set al liberty on October 24.

Brady, Patrick, a young ex-convist, was pursued on November 21 along Eleventh-ave, and Forty-sixth-st, by Policemen Ryan and Clifford of the Twenty-second Frechet. He was wanted for a burglary in Forticth-st, and he heat twice threatened to shoot Ryan, when the policemen tried to arrest him. Brady jumped into the North River and sought refuse in a canal boat at the foot of Forticth-st. Ryan followed him into the cabin of the boat with a revolver in his hand. The thief resisted arrest and in the struggle Ryan shot him dead. The policeman chaimed that the killing was accidental and he was exonerated.

BRIGGY, Mirs REBECCA, age thirty-likee, was shot in the breast on the night of April 9, by her husband, Franklim Brugy, at their home in the tenement home No. 313 West Forty-third-st, and died from the wound on the following day. The couple had been married less than a year. Bruggy was drank at the time of the shooting, and afterward said that he had no remembrance of it. He also expressed great arief at his act. A coroner's jury found him sulty of homicide, and he was committed for trial. He was indicted for murder in the first degree, but has not been tried and is still confined in the Fombs.

BYENGS, MARTIS, a homeless man, was attacked by unknown raffians in Rivington-st, on the might of October 20. He went to the Eldridge Street Police Station, and said that he had been struck with a bottle. On the morning of October 23 he was found dead in a stable in suitokest, where he had been permitted to siece. When Deputy Coroner Conway made an autopsy, as found a broken kniic-blade steking in the man's skull. Bytnes was an Irisaman thirty-dive years old. His assassin is still unknown to the police.

CAMERON, MRS, ELIZARETH, age twenty-eight, the wife of

the police.

CAMERON, MIS, ELIZATETH, age twenty-eight, the wife of George D. Cameron, detter known as "Noremac", the pedestrian, was shot dead in her home at No. 466 Eighth-ave., on August 23 by her husband's trainer, George Beattle, who also killed husself. Beattle, who was forty-five years old and had served twenty-two years in the British army, had become a drunk-ard and Mrs. Cameron had prevailed on her makenal to discharge him. Resentment on Beattle's part was believed to be the only cause of the tragedy. Mrs. Cameron's two young children witnessed her death and also the suitade of her marderer.

CAPOHANNO, GAETANO, While quarrelling with several other Italians at No. 301 Monroe-st., on March 11, was stabbed in the breast with a shoemaker's kinde and instantly killed. All the men concerned in the affray lived in the breast with a shoemaker's kinde and instantly killed. All the men concerned in the stabbing was done by Gaetano Trezza, who had escaped. All the witnesses refused to admit that they had seen the fatal blow struck. A coroner's jury gave a verdict that either Siecaro or Trezza was the murderer. Siecaro was acquitted in June. Trezza is still at large.

Clark Pathick, a car driver, who lived at No. 16 Lewis-

derer. Siccaro was acquitted in June. Trezza is still at large.

CLARE. PATRICK, a car driver, who lived at No. 16 Lewisst, made two assaults upon Edwin McManus, a conductor, on the night of July 27, when the men met in Grand-st, liquor stores. McManus dealt Clark a fatal blow with his bare flst, in defending himself in the second flight. The police arrested McManus, but a Coroner's jury set him at liberty.

PITZPATRICK. Thomas, a married laborer of No. 842 Greenwich-st., after engaging in a flight with other drunken men in the fliquor store at No. 27 Ninth-ave, early on Christmas morning, led an assault upon Policemen John Taylor and George Smith, who went to the liquor store to quell the dismirbanes. While raising a kulfe to strike Smith, Fitzpatrick was also in the breast by the officer. He died on the morning of December 31. Policeman Smith has been suspended and placed under arrest, pending an investigation by a Coroner.

and placed under arrest, pending an investigation by a Coroner.

GAMELIL, JOSEPH, an Italian laborer, of No. 41 Sackettst., Brooklyn, was thrown from a scaffold in an undiashed building at Bectunest, and Thirteenthave, on April 18, while fighting with Francis Cassidy, of No. 38 Downing at He fell a distance of thirty feet and was killed. Cassidy was arrested, but a Coronor's jury declared that he did not intend to kill the Italian, and he was set free.

GULIA, FRANCISCO, an Italian, who lived at No. 63 Thompson-st., was stanbed at Crosby and Broome-sts., on the evening of November 26, in a quarrel over can of beer. He died from his wound in St. Vincent's Hospital on November 28. Francisco Dellet, who stabbed Gulia, was arrested when he was about to return to Italy, and is now in the Tombs awaiting trial.

HARTY, THOMAS, a drunken young Irishman, of No. 220 Mulberry st., curagued in a stabbing affray on the night of April 17 with Francis Bolity, a vagabond companion, in front of No. 240 Mulberry st., entity, who was supposed to be wounded, made its escape. Harty died from his woulds on April 19 at St. Vincent's itospital. Since then the police have been unable to find Reilly.

HAYSERICK, WILLIAM H., who was Bying malawfully.

pital. Since then the police have been unable to find Reilly.

HAVELSTICK, WILLIAM H., who was living unlawfully with Mrs. Emma Uhler in the Vienna Fints, No. 341 West Twenty-third-st., was shot dead on the